

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 EB-08 DLOS-09 OES-07 /083 W
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R 100720Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4381
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 4131

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NO
SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN FOREIGN POLICY IN THE POST ELECTION PERIOD

REF: OSLO 4072

1. IN MY INITIAL CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR GENERAL KRISTIANSEN, THE LATTER RAISED THE MATTER OF CHANGES IN THE CONDUCT OF NORWEGIAN FOREIGN POLICY IN THE POST-ELECTION PERIOD.

2. KRISTIANSEN MADE REFERENCE TO THE CURRENT NORWEGIAN ELECTION CAMPAIGN, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS VERY CLOSE AND ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING IN RECENT HISTORY. HE THEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT BECAUSE OF THE CAMPAIGN THERE HAD BEEN SOME LESSENING OF GON ATTENTION TO THE CONDUCT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

3. THE SECRETARY GENERAL REFERRED TO TWO GENERAL AREAS. THE FIRST WAS WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS A LOT OF "LOOSE ENDS," MATTERS ON WHICH NORWAY HAS YET TO ACT AND WHICH THE GOVERNMENT, NO MATTER WHO
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WINS THE ELECTION, WILL HAVE TO ACT ON FOLLOWING THE SEPTEMBER 12 ELECTIONS. HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, SPECIFY ANY SUCH ISSUES.

4. THE ONE SPECIFIC ITEM WHICH KRISTIANSEN SAID WOULD REQUIRE GON POST ELECTION ATTENTION WAS THE PACKAGE OF ISSUES INVOLVING THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION, PARTICULARLY IN REGARD TO THE NORTHERN REGION, I.E., THE BARENTS SEA QUESTION, SVALBARD, ETC.

HE NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN AN ACCUMULATION OF INCIDENTS AND UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS, AS WELL AS IRRITANTS TO THE GENERAL RELATIONSHIP, SUCH AS THE HOBK SPY CASE. HE DID NOT GO INTO DETAIL ON THE OFFSHORE BOUNDARY QUESTION, THE FISHERIES QUESTION OR THE SVALBARD SOVEREIGNTY MATTER; HE DID, HOWEVER, EXPRESS CONCERN OVER THE WHOLE RANGE OF ISSUES.

5. COMMENT: KRISTIANSEN'S REMARKS FOLLOWED BY LESS THAN A DAY, THE PUBLIC EXCHANGES REGARDING NORWAY'S EXERCISE OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER SVALBARD. I HOPE THAT THE FORTHCOMING VISIT OF DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS CAN BE USED TO REINFORCE ANEW OUR ASSURANCES TO NORWAY REGARDING SVALBARD AND THE SOVIET RELATIONSHIP IN GENERAL.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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